

12. FORESTHILL FUEL MODIFICATION PROJECT

The Foresthill pre-fire project was designed to tie in with and increase the effectiveness

of current projects that the Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) has implemented in the area as a result of grant funding from CDF and fuel break projects the Tahoe National Forest has started to the east of Foresthill. The RCD projects include a demonstration of a shaded fuel break for forest lots, education of the local population of fire safe standards, and fuel break planning for the Foresthill Divide.

Foresthill Pre-fire Project:

Event 1: An inspection program of the Foresthill Divide area to enforce the Public Resources Code 4291 Fire Safe standards (LE 38 Inspection). Placer County Planning Department estimates that there are approximately 2,400 housing units on the Divide. Over 700 of these homes have been inspected so far. Inspection of these housing units will serve two purposes:

1. Ensure compliance with PRC 4291. This will promote a fuel condition adjacent to structures where fire suppression resources will have a better chance of protecting homes should a wildfire occur.
2. Educate the homeowners of the state law requirements regarding defensible space standards and what they should do to help the chances of their house surviving a wildfire in the area.

The Nevada Yuba Placer Unit has found, in its Nevada County LE 38 Inspection program in 2001, that 33% of the residences require a second inspection to ensure compliance with PRC 4291. Approximately 1% of the residences required a third inspection.

Event 2: Second LE 38 inspection of approximately 800 housing units.

Event 3: Third LE 38 inspection of approximately 24 housing units. *Includes General Services vehicle rental for inspectors.

Event 4: A series a roadside fuel modification projects located in strategic areas to allow fire fighting resources access and a location to effectively suppress an encroaching wildfire.

This portion of the project has been completed.

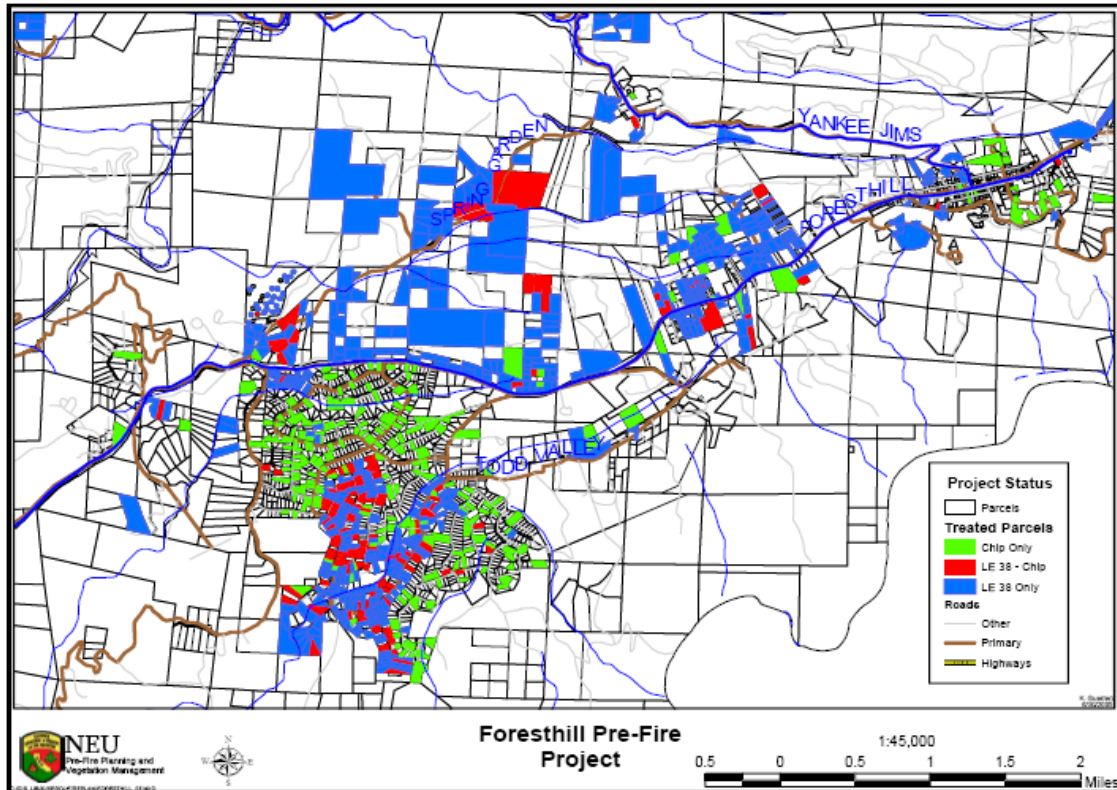
Event 5: Homeowner support for removal of vegetation as a result of the LE 38 inspections. The inspections will most likely occur in the late spring and summer months. Residents who remove vegetation as a result of the inspections may need alternative ways to dispose of the material. Burn days will be limited due to air quality and fire hazard concerns. The proposed support for the homeowner is to notify the residents that have been inspected as to a time frame when a chipper and crew will be by their street. The homeowner can then clear vegetation around their residence and bring it to the curbside. The crew will then chip the vegetation and deposit the material back onto the property.

Of the homes that were inspected, 209 received a warning notice and sixty-four have since utilized the chipping program. A total of 267 residences within the project area have made use of the chipper program and many others have cleared around their homes in an effort to reduce their fire hazard.

Potential Stakeholders to participate in Cost Sharing to Fund the Project:

- Placer County
- Todd Valley Homeowners Association
- Local Service Groups
- Placer County Resource Conservation District
- Placer County Air Pollution
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- California Energy Commission
- Tahoe National Forest
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- American River Watershed CRMP
- Foresthill Fire Protection District

Pacific Gas & Electric **Estimated Cost of Proposed Project: \$153,910.14** To date over \$75,000 has been expended towards this program. The funding has come from a variety of programs including Pacific Gas & Electric settlement funds, Prop 204, and National Fire Plan monies.



13. MEADOW VISTA / APPLGATE PRE-FIRE PROJECT PROPOSAL

The Meadow Vista / Applegate pre-fire project was also designed to augment current pre-fire projects that have been implemented by the Placer County Resource Conservation District, in conjunction with Placer Hills Consolidated Fire District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Black Oak Waldorf School, through grants funded by way of CDF and other sources. These projects include demonstrations of a CDF Vegetation Management Program prescribed burn, shaded fuel break, defensible space, and hand versus mechanical methods of fuel reduction, and a handbook for home-owners about defensible space. There is strong support of these pre-fire projects by the local community as evidenced by heavy attendance of public workshops and landowner participation.

Meadow Vista / Applegate Pre-Fire Project

Event 1: A series of roadside fuel modifications, located in strategic areas to allow fire fighting resources access and a location to effectively suppress an encroaching wildfire. Using existing roads for the location of the fuel modification takes advantage of the area occupied by the road surface, which is devoid of all vegetation. Modifying the fuels for a distance of 25 feet on both sides of the existing road will give an effective fuel break width of approximately 70 to 80 feet for secondary roads. The location of these fuel